

HEADLINES & NEWS

President Bush and the First Lady Meet with Fulbrighters in Italy

President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush met with Fulbright students during their visit to Rome in June 2008. In an hour-long discussion with alumni, participants and supporters of the Fulbright Program as well as



White House Photo by: Shealah Craighead

First Lady Laura Bush (third from left) with Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Megan Chiusaroli (second from left) and two of Ms. Chiusaroli's Italian high school students.

U.S. Ambassador Ronald P. Spogli at the American Academy in Rome, the President emphasized the importance of Fulbright exchanges in promoting a better understanding of the United States. Ambassador Spogli is a former member of the FSB. The First Lady met separately with Fulbright English Teaching Assistants (ETAs) and Italian students at the Center for American Studies (CSA). Mrs. Bush congratulated the ETAs on helping to rectify misconceptions about the United States among secondary school students.



President George W. Bush (at center) and U.S. Ambassador Ronald P. Spogli (at far right) with Fulbright Students.

Photo by: Alessandro Carradini

United States and Chile Sign Agreement to Expand Higher Education Opportunities in the United States for Chileans

In August 2007, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Chilean Foreign Minister Alejandro Foxley signed the United States-Chile Educational Scholarship Agreement in the Treaty Room of the U.S. Department of State. With support from both countries, the program operates under the auspices of the United States-Chile Fulbright Commission and engages talented Ph.D. students who would not otherwise have the opportunity to study in the United States. The program grew out of discussions during the visit of the U.S. university presidents to Chile.



From left to right: Chilean Foreign Minister Alejandro Foxley and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice sign the United States-Chile Educational Scholarship Agreement in the Treaty Room of the U.S. Department of State.

Photo by: U.S. Department of State

Goli Ameri Sworn in as Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs



Assistant Secretary Goli Ameri (front, center) with FSB Members in August 2008.

Goli Ameri was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs on March 19, 2008. She leads the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), which fosters mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries around the world. In a meeting with the members of the FSB in August 2008, the Assistant Secretary articulated a series of priorities with the goal of expanding people-to-people exchanges and strengthening the Bureau's public-private collaboration and partnerships, engaging the alumni of the programs of the Bureau and encouraging their increased networking, and finding new ways to use technology to reach wider audiences and achieve the goals of the Bureau. Pictured in the front row, from left to right: FSB Chair Shirley M. Green, Assistant Secretary of State Goli Ameri and FSB Member Linnet F. Deily, and back row, from left to right: FSB Members John W. Johnson, Jean Becker, Robert H. Bruininks and James L. Oblinger.

Assistant Secretary Visits Brazil and Argentina

Assistant Secretary of State Ameri embarked May 26, 2008 on her first trip to South America since taking office. She was accompanied by Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Academic Programs Thomas A. Farrell. On May 27 in Brasilia, Assistant Secretary Ameri met with Brazilian government officials to discuss a range of issues with the goal of further expanding educational and cultural cooperation between Brazil and the United States. Ms. Ameri, U.S. Ambassador Clifford Sobel, Minister of Education Fernando Haddad, and President of the Chamber of Deputies Arlindo Chinaglia launched a new Fulbright/CAPES (Brazilian Ministry of Education) scholarship in honor of Julio Redecker, a Brazilian Congressman who perished in a July 2007 plane crash in São Paulo en route to the United States, as part of a Brazilian congressional delegation. Assistant Secretary Ameri and Ambassador Sobel also signed a new Fulbright Agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ms. Ameri announced the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) additional \$1 million investment for the Fulbright Program in conjunction with the signing of the new agreement. Throughout her trip to Brazil, the Assistant Secretary met with Fulbright, Humphrey, and International Visitor Leadership Program alumni, who discussed with her their experiences in the United States and how they are using their experiences to give back to their communities and countries.



Assistant Secretary of State Goli Ameri (center) with Brazil's Chamber of Deputies President Arlindo Chinaglia (left) and U.S. Ambassador to Brazil Clifford Sobel.



From left to right: U.S. Ambassador to Brazil Clifford Sobel, Hubert H. Humphrey alumna and former Brazilian Supreme Court Chief Justice Ellen Gracie Northfleet, Mrs. Barbara Sobel, Assistant Secretary of State Goli Ameri and Fulbright alumnus and Supreme Court Justice Minister Ricardo Lewandowski.

Photos by: U.S. Department of State



Assistant Secretary of State Goli Ameri, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Academic Programs Thomas A. Farrell and the U.S.-Argentina Fulbright Commission Executive Director Norma Gonzalez with Fulbright grantees selected for the Visiting Student Program and Young Leaders Seminar.

Assistant Secretary Ameri visited Argentina from June 1 to June 3, where she met with Argentine government officials, teachers, women leaders, senior educators, students and private sector representatives to increase education and cultural cooperation between Argentina and the United States. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Academic Programs Thomas A. Farrell and Assistant Secretary Ameri also met with a number of Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) exchange alumni and current participants, including U.S. Fulbright English Teaching Assistants in Argentina, as well as participants in the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program and the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program. U.S. Ambassador Earl Anthony Wayne hosted a reception for over 120 Fulbright alumni. On June 3, Assistant Secretary Ameri and Ambassador Wayne announced the expansion of the English Access Microscholarship Program in

Argentina. A \$250,000 investment by ECA will allow the Embassy to fund one thousand scholarships for Argentine youth throughout the country to study English. Assistant Secretary Ameri's presence in Argentina was covered extensively by the major national media. She was interviewed for television, radio, and *La Nacion* newspaper.

Photo by: U.S. Department of State



From left to right: James L. Bullock, Co-president of the U.S.-France Fulbright Commission Board and Minister Counselor for Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy; Assistant Secretary of State Goli Ameri; and Antoine Grassin, Co-president of the Commission Board and Director for Scientific and Higher Education Cooperation, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs.

Assistant Secretary Visits France

On July 10, 2008, Assistant Secretary Goli Ameri visited the U.S.-France Fulbright Commission in Paris. She met with Fulbright Commission Executive Director Arnaud Roujou de Boubée and staff and attended a formal Commission Board meeting. Ministry of Foreign Affairs representative Antoine Grassin shared plans about a reception planned for later in the year at the French Embassy in Washington, DC to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the U.S.-France Fulbright Program. Assistant Secretary Ameri also met with Fulbright alumni, including the president and vice president of the Fulbright Alumni Association there. She praised the work of the Commission and its Board and their commitment to the Fulbright Program.

United States and Poland Sign New Fulbright Agreement

C. Miller Crouch, then-Acting Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, (seated right) and Wojciech Flera, Chargé d'affaires ad interim, Embassy of the Republic of Poland (seated left) signed a new bilateral Fulbright agreement on March 10, 2008, in the Treaty Room in Washington, DC, as Andrzej Rabczenko, Minister-Counselor, Embassy of Poland (standing left) and Andrzej Dakowski, Executive Director of the U.S.-Polish Fulbright Commission (standing right) looked on. The new agreement committed Poland to match the U.S. government financial contribution to the binational program and thus will significantly increase the size and scope of the program between the two countries. The Fulbright Program in Poland was initiated in 1959. The Commission was established by bilateral agreement in 1990. This new agreement supersedes the 1990 accord and strengthens the bilateral Fulbright partnership.



Photo by: U.S. Department of State

The Fulbright agreement between Poland and the United States is signed.

In Memoriam

Nobel Prize Winner and Fulbright Alumnus Leonid Hurwicz



Photo Courtesy of The University of Minnesota

Nobel Prize winner Leonid Hurwicz

U.S. economist and Fulbright alumnus Leonid Hurwicz, one of three Americans awarded the 2007 Nobel Prize in Economics in October, died on June 24, 2008. Professor Hurwicz's award was for having laid the foundations of mechanism design theory. Eric Maskin and Roger Myerson were named as co-recipients for their advancements on this theory. In 1965, Professor Hurwicz traveled to India as a Fulbright Scholar to serve as a visiting professor at Bangalore University. During his Fulbright year, he taught classes at Bangalore University and visited and studied at other Indian institutions of higher education. Professor Hurwicz credited his Fulbright experience as "...an important phase in my development and a significant influence in the development of my economic theories." He was professor emeritus of economics at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. University of Minnesota President Robert H. Bruininks, a member of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, made this statement at the time the Nobel Award was announced, "Professor Hurwicz has influenced in a very significant and transformative way the study of economics and application of economics to important issues on an international scale." Professor Hurwicz was the 37th Fulbright alumnus to receive a Nobel Prize.

President George H. W. Bush Meets Fulbright Tsunami Relief Program Students



President George H. W. Bush with Fulbright students from Indonesia.

Former President George H. W. Bush met with a group of Fulbright students from Indonesia who are in the United States as participants in the Fulbright Tsunami Relief Program. The meeting took place on November 28, 2007 at Texas A&M University's (TAMU) Annenberg Presidential Conference Center. The Fulbrighters in attendance were enrolled at TAMU, pursuing graduate degrees in fields critical to the rebuilding of Aceh Province, which was devastated by an earthquake and tsunami that struck the island of Sumatra in December 2004. The program is made possible by the generosity of the Bush-Clinton Houston Tsunami Fund. Participants were nominated by the American-Indonesia (Fulbright) Exchange Foundation in Jakarta and placed at Texas A&M University and the University of Arkansas, as well as other institutions in the United States with graduate departments offering programs in their disciplines. This meeting at Texas A&M with President George H. W. Bush afforded the Fulbrighters an opportunity to talk with him about their respective fields of concentration and to engage in discussions about ways they can contribute to reconstruction efforts when they return home.

U.S. Government Officials and University and College Presidents Promote U.S. Higher Education in Chile and Brazil

In August 2007, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings and U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Thomas A. Farrell led a high-profile delegation of U.S. college and university presidents to Chile and Brazil. Through meetings with students and leaders in higher education, government, and business, the delegation promoted the quality, dynamism, and diversity of U.S. higher education, as well as a desire to expand educational partnerships in the hemisphere. The delegation carried the message that America welcomes and values international students in the United States, and highlighted the importance of international education to strengthen ties and prepare globally competitive American students. This pairing of U.S. government and higher education leaders is the third in a series of delegations growing out of a commitment to greater partnership in the national interest made at the U.S. University Presidents Summit on International Education, co-hosted by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings in January 2006.



Photo by: U.S. Department of State

The U.S. Higher Education Delegation to Brazil and Chile led by Education Secretary Margaret Spellings and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Thomas A. Farrell, with eight U.S. college and university presidents at the Presidential Palace in Santiago, Chile. From left to right: Mark S. Wrighton, Chancellor, Washington University in St. Louis; Robin Gilchrist, Senior Counselor to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Education; Lauren M. Maddox, Assistant Secretary for Communications and Outreach, U.S. Department of Education; Sean O'Keefe, Chancellor, Louisiana State University; Susan Aldridge, President, University of Maryland - University College; Thomas A. Farrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Academic Programs, U.S. Department of State; Gregory L. Geoffroy, President, Iowa State University; Margaret Spellings, U.S. Secretary of Education; James B. Milliken, President, University of Nebraska; Sarah Martinez Tucker, Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Education; John Hennessy, President, Stanford University; Eduardo J. Pardon, President, Miami Dade College; and Henry T. Yang, Chancellor, University of California, Santa Barbara.

International Fulbright Science and Technology Grantees Begin Ph.D. Programs

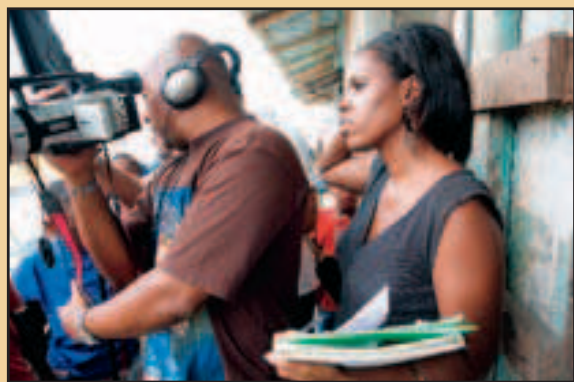
The first recipients of the new International Fulbright Science and Technology Award began their Ph.D. programs in the fall of 2007. Designed to provide top-level students in science and technology with the U.S. government's most prestigious and valuable scholarship, this new Fulbright scholarship for Ph.D. study at America's leading universities was created to attract the most highly qualified young women and men to the world's preeminent higher education institutions. Then Under Secretary of State Karen Hughes announced the new award program in January 2006 at the U.S. University Presidents Summit on International Education. Winners of the 2007 Fulbright scholarship came from 27 countries. Recipients were chosen through a rigorous, multi-tiered, merit-based selection process consisting of in-country competition and review, field and discipline merit review by top-level U.S. academic leaders, and nomination by a blue ribbon Advisory Panel, including a Nobel Laureate and university deans and presidents. Final selection was made by the Presidentially appointed J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.



From left to right: Krisada Kritayakirana from Thailand at Stanford University; Lisa Shrestha from Nepal at University of California, Berkeley; Diego Ploper from Argentina at University of California, Los Angeles; Thomas A. Farrell, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Academic Programs; Rebecca Best from Canada at University of California, Davis; Heidi Manley, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Special Projects Officer; and Seungwon Jeong from South Korea at Stanford University are pictured at a Fulbright Visiting Student Enrichment Seminar in Providence, Rhode Island in March 2008.

U.S. Department of State and mtvU Partner in Fulbright-mtvU Fellowships

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) partnered with MTV's 24-hour college network to create the Fulbright-mtvU Fellowship. The 2008 fellowships were awarded to Melissa Adams of Emory University to Uganda, Ainsley Breault of the University of Southern California to New Zealand, Katherine Good of Loyola University in Chicago to Mexico, Spencer Orey of the University of California, Berkeley to Mali and Alexis Tucker of Princeton University to France. Inaugurated in 2007 to promote "the power of music" as a global force for mutual understanding, the first Fellowships were awarded to Larnies Bowen of New York University to Panama, Phally Chroy of Temple University to Cambodia, James Collins of Harvard University to South Africa, and Aaron Shneyer



Larnies Bowen, one of the first four Fulbright-mtvU Fellowship winners (right), films interviews of artists of Spanish reggae music in Colon, Panama.

of Georgetown University to Israel. The recipients were chosen through a multi-tiered, merit-based selection process by panels of academic leaders and area experts, in addition to musical icons. Fulbright-mtvU Fellowship winners conduct research abroad for one academic year around an aspect of international music culture on study projects of their own design. The Fulbrighters share their experiences with their peers via video reports, blogs and podcasts that have been showcased on mtvU and <http://www.mtvU.com>. Through the creation of this new fellowship, the U.S. Department of State and mtvU are promoting the role of music in mutual understanding, invigorating interest in international education among U.S. college and university students, and furthering the positive impact of public-private partnerships.